



## Local elections 2012

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Elections are due on Thursday 3 May 2012 in 128 English local authorities (including 36 Metropolitan Boroughs) and all Councils in Wales (22 authorities) and Scotland (32 authorities). Elections will also be held on the same day for the Mayor of London and the London Assembly. Referendums will be held in eleven cities in England to determine whether or not to introduce directly-elected mayors.

The first elections for police commissioners in England and Wales are scheduled for 15 November 2012.

### Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Where are elections taking place in 2012?</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Local Authorities with elections in 2012</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1	England	2
1.2	Wales	3
	Elections in 2008	3
1.3	Scotland	4
1.4	Northern Ireland	4
1.5	London Assembly and Mayor	4
<b>2</b>	<b>Mayors: referendums and election</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Police commissioners</b>	<b>5</b>

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# 1 Where are elections taking place in 2012?

Local elections in England are due to take place on 3 May 2012 in:

- 36 Metropolitan Boroughs in England – all by thirds
- 18 Unitary authorities in England – 16 by thirds and 2 all-up
- 74 Second-tier districts in England– 63 by thirds, 7 for half the council and 4 all-up
- 22 Councils in Wales and 32 Councils in Scotland
- Elections for the London Mayor and the London Assembly will be held across the 32 London Boroughs on 3 May 2012.
- Also 11 cities in England will hold a referendum to determine whether or not to introduce directly-elected mayors.

On 15 November elections for Police and Crime Commissioners in England and Wales will be held in the 41 police authorities outside London.

## Local Authorities with elections in 2012

### 1.1 England

#### 36 Metropolitan Boroughs - one-third of councillors in each

##### Lab 24, Con 3, Noc 9

1. Barnsley	Lab	13. Leeds	Lab	25. Sheffield	Lab
2. Birmingham	NOC	14. Liverpool	Lab	26. Solihull	Con
3. Bolton	Lab	15. Manchester	Lab	27. South Tyneside	Lab
4. Bradford	NOC	16. Newcastle upon Tyne	Lab	28. Stockport	NOC
5. Bury	Lab	17. North Tyneside	Lab	29. Sunderland	Lab
6. Calderdale	NOC	18. Oldham	Lab	30. Tameside	Lab
7. Coventry	Lab	19. Rochdale	NOC	31. Trafford	Con
8. Doncaster	Lab	20. Rotherham	Lab	32. Wakefield	Lab
9. Dudley	Con	21. St Helens	Lab	33. Walsall	NOC
10. Gateshead	Lab	22. Salford	Lab	34. Wigan	Lab
11. Kirklees	NOC	23. Sandwell	Lab	35. Wirral	NOC
12. Knowsley	Lab	24. Sefton	NOC	36. Wolverhampton	Lab

#### 18 Unitary authorities - one-third of councillors except where indicated

##### Lab 6, Con 6, Noc 5, LDem 1

1. Blackburn with Darwen	Lab	7. NE Lincolnshire	NOC	13. Southampton	Con
2. Derby	NOC	8. Peterborough	Con	14. Southend-on-Sea	Con
3. Halton	Lab	9. Plymouth	Con	15. Swindon (all-up)	Con
4. Hartlepool (all-up)	Lab	10. Portsmouth	LD	16. Thurrock	NOC
5. Hull	Lab	11. Reading	NOC	17. Warrington	Lab
6. Milton Keynes	NOC	12. Slough	Lab	18. Wokingham	Con

## 74 Second-tier districts - one-third of councillors (except where indicated)

Lab 8, Con 43, Noc 17, LDem 6

1. Adur (one-half)	Con	26. Gosport (one-half)	Con	51. Rossendale	NOC
2. Amber Valley	Con	27. Great Yarmouth	Con	52. Rugby (all-up)	Con
3. Basildon	Con	28. Harlow	Con	53. Runnymede	Con
4. Basingstoke & Deane	Con	29. Harrogate	Con	54. Rushmoor (all-up)	Con
5. Bassetlaw	Lab	30. Hart	Con	55. St Albans	NOC
6. Brentwood	Con	31. Hastings (one-half)	Lab	56. South Cambridgeshire	Con
7. Broxbourne (all-up)	Con	32. Havant	Con	57. South Lakeland	LD
8. Burnley	NOC	33. Hertsmere	Con	58. Stevenage	Lab
9. Cambridge	LD	34. Huntingdonshire	Con	59. Stratford-on-Avon	Con
10. CanNOck Chase	NOC	35. Hyndburn	Lab	60. Stroud	NOC
11. Carlisle	NOC	36. Ipswich	Lab	61. Tamworth	Con
12. Castle Point	Con	37. Lincoln	Lab	62. Tandridge	Con
13. Cheltenham (one-half)	LD	38. Maidstone	Con	63. Three Rivers	LD
14. Cherwell	Con	39. Mole Valley	NOC	64. Tunbridge Wells	Con
15. Chorley	NOC	40. Newcastle-under-Lyme	NOC	65. Watford	LD
16. Colchester	NOC	41. North Hertfordshire	Con	66. Welwyn Hatfield	Con
17. Craven	Con	42. Norwich	NOC	67. West Lancashire	Con
18. Crawley	Con	43. Nuneaton & Bedworth (one-half)	NOC	68. West Oxfordshire	Con
19. Daventry (all-up)	Con	44. Oxford (one-half)	Lab	69. Weymouth & Portland	NOC
20. Eastleigh	LD	45. Pendle	NOC	70. Winchester	NOC
21. Elmbridge	Con	46. Preston	Lab	71. Woking	Con
22. Epping Forest	Con	47. Purbeck	NOC	72. Worcester	Con
23. Exeter	NOC	48. Redditch	Con	73. Worthing	Con
24. Fareham (one-half)	Con	49. Reigate & Banstead	Con	74. Wyre Forest	Con
25. Gloucester	Con	50. Rochford	Con		

### 1.2 Wales

Elections to the 22 unitary authorities in **Wales** are held every four years, and are scheduled for 2012.

#### 22 Welsh Councils all-up

Lab 2, Con 2, Noc 17, PC 1

1. Blaenau Gwent	NOC	9. Flintshire	NOC	17. Powys	NOC
2. Bridgend	NOC	10. Gwynedd	PC	18. Rhondda Cynon Taff	Lab
3. Caerphilly	NOC	11. Isle of Anglesey	NOC	19. Swansea	NOC
4. Cardiff	NOC	12. Merthyr Tydfil	NOC	20. Torfaen	NOC
5. Carmarthenshire	NOC	13. Monmouthshire	Con	21. Vale of Glamorgan	Con
6. Ceredigion	NOC	14. Neath Port Talbot	Lab	22. Wrexham	NOC
7. Conwy	NOC	15. Newport	NOC		
8. Denbighshire	NOC	16. Pembrokeshire	NOC		

#### Elections in 2008

Most of the seats being contested in 2012 will previously have been fought in 2008. On the basis of the results of those elections in England and Wales, the estimated national equivalent share of vote then was Conservatives 43%, Labour 24%, and Liberal Democrats 23%.

### 1.3 Scotland

Elections to councils in Scotland were due to have taken place in 2011, however to avoid coinciding with the Scottish Parliament Elections the terms of local government have been extended by one year. As a result local government elections will take place in 2012 and then in 2017. Thereafter, local elections will revert to four year terms so as not to clash with elections to the Parliament.

These local elections will be under a system of Single Transferable Vote (STV), the second since it was introduced for the 2007 local government elections.

### 32 Scottish Councils all-up

#### Lab 2, Noc 27, Ind 3

1. Aberdeen	NOC	12. Edinburgh	NOC	23. Orkney	Ind
2. Aberdeenshire	NOC	13. Eilean Siar	Ind	24. Perth & Kinross	NOC
3. Angus	NOC	14. Falkirk	NOC	25. Renfrewshire	NOC
4. Argyll & Bute	NOC	15. Fife	NOC	26. Scottish Borders	NOC
5. Clackmannanshire	NOC	16. Glasgow	Lab	27. Shetland	Ind
6. Dumfries & Galloway	NOC	17. Highland	NOC	28. South Ayrshire	NOC
7. Dundee	NOC	18. Inverclyde	NOC	29. South Lanarkshire	NOC
8. East Ayrshire	NOC	19. Midlothian	NOC	30. Stirling	NOC
9. East Dunbartonshire	NOC	20. Moray	NOC	31. West Dunbartonshire	NOC
10. East Lothian	NOC	21. North Ayrshire	NOC	32. West Lothian	NOC
11. East Renfrewshire	NOC	22. North Lanarkshire	Lab		

### 1.4 Northern Ireland

There no routine council elections in 2012 in **Northern Ireland**. (Elections were last held for the 26 local councils there in 2011.)

### 1.5 London Assembly and Mayor

Elections for the 25 member London Assembly and the London mayor are also scheduled for 3 May 2012.

## 2 Mayors: referendums and election

Referendums under the *Localism Act 2011* will be held in 11 English cities to determine whether or not to introduce directly elected mayors<sup>1</sup>. These will take place in:

- |               |                        |               |
|---------------|------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Birmingham | 5. Leeds               | 9. Nottingham |
| 2. Bradford   | 6. Liverpool           | 10. Sheffield |
| 3. Bristol    | 7. Manchester          | 11. Wakefield |
| 4. Coventry   | 8. Newcastle-upon-Tyne |               |

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<sup>1</sup> It is possible for an authority to have a directly elected mayor without a referendum by passing a resolution. The leader of Liverpool City Council has said he wants to do this and hold a vote for an elected mayor without first holding a public referendum.

For further details see Commons Library Standard Note 5000 [Directly Elected Mayors](#)

The Government has announced that where these referendums are in favour of having an elected mayor, the elections for mayors will be on the same day as the polls for police commissioners, 15 November 2012.<sup>2</sup>

Following a petition to the local authority a referendum was held on 26 January 2012 to decide whether **Salford** should elect a Mayor for Salford City Council. 18% of those eligible voted and 56% voted for an elected mayor. (17,344 yes; 13,653 no). It is probable that the Salford Mayor will be elected on 3 May 2012.

A referendum is to be held over whether **Doncaster** should retain its elected mayor or switch to a council leader, the exact date has not yet been decided. Doncaster has had an elected mayor since 2002 and the post is currently held by Peter Davies of the English Democrats.

### **3 Police commissioners**

The first elections for Police and Crime Commissioners in England and Wales will be held on 15 November 2012 in each of the 41 police force areas outside London.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> [Hhttp://www.communities.gov.uk/news/newsroom/2073781](http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/newsroom/2073781)H

<sup>3</sup> [Hhttp://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/police/police-crime-commissioners/H](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/police/police-crime-commissioners/H)